

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

In the Claims:

The listing of the claims found below replaces all prior versions and similar listings of claims in the above-titled patent application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating sale and distribution of fuel to a fuel customer, comprising the following [[step]] steps: at a server facility, storing store fuel deal data, and processing said fuel deal data to automatically generate pricing data based on said fuel deal data and in accordance with a predetermined pricing technique; at a client facility coupled to said server facility via an electronic data network, permitting a user to enter said fuel deal data and to cause said server facility to store and process said fuel deal data to automatically generate said pricing data; and permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal data and said automatically generated pricing data.

Claim [[1]] 2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility and said client facility are coupled to each other via the Internet.

Claim [[2]] 3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility and said client facility are coupled to each other via open standards based protocols.

Claim [[3]] 4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

Claim [[4]] 5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility automatically generates said pricing data periodically.

Claim [[5]] 6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility is further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other client facilities simultaneously.

Claim [[6]] 7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said client facility is remotely located away from said server facility and said client facility acts as a data collection point for collecting data that said server facility uses in automatically generating said pricing data.

Claim [[7]] 8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined pricing technique involves basing prices for fuel deals based on past fuel deals.

Claim [[8]] 9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined pricing technique involves said server facility generating a weighted average selling price based on prior fuel deals.

Claim ~~[[9]]~~ 10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined pricing technique is implemented within said server facility as a software module running within said server facility.

Claim ~~[[10]]~~ 11. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating sale and distribution of fuel to a fuel customer, comprising the steps of: at a server facility, storing fuel deal data, and processing said fuel deal data to automatically generate pricing data based on said fuel deal data and in accordance with a predetermined pricing technique, said predetermined pricing technique controlling said server facility to compute fuel prices based on weighted averages of fuel prices maintained within said fuel deal data; at a client facility outfitted with a client application and coupled to said server facility via an electronic data network, permitting a user to enter said fuel deal data and to cause said server facility to store and process said fuel deal data to generate said pricing data, said client application configured to access said electronic data network and to establish communications with said server facility; and permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal data and said automatically generated pricing data.

Claim ~~[[11]]~~ 12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility and said client facility are coupled to each other via the Internet.

Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility and said client facility are coupled to each other via open standards based protocols.

Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

Claim ~~[[14]]~~ 15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility automatically generated said pricing data periodically.

Claim ~~[[15]]~~ 16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility is further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other client facilities simultaneously.

Claim ~~[[16]]~~ 17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said client facility is remotely located away from said server facility and said client facility acts as a data collection point for collecting data that said server facility uses in automatically generating said pricing data.

Claim ~~[[17]]~~ 18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined pricing technique involves basing prices for fuel deals based on past fuel deals.

Claim ~~[[18]]~~ 19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined pricing technique involves said server facility generating a weighted average selling price based on prior fuel deals.

Claim ~~[[19]]~~ 20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined pricing technique is implemented within said server facility as a software module running within said server facility.

Claim ~~[[20]]~~ 21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of providing a graphical user interface to a user of said client facility, said graphical user interface permitting said user to engage in operations and to cause said server facility to automatically ~~[[computer]]~~ compute said fuel prices.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION:

The Applicants are amending claims 1-21 to correct a typographical error. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-titled patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

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